



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF "HAND DELIVERY"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand delivered to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 10, 2003.

Heather Sava

Tommy Foster

In re Application of:

Schaller, et al.

Serial No. 09/828,322

Filing Date: April 5, 2001

Title: BRIDGE-CLIP TISSUE CONNECTOR
APPARATUS AND METHODS

Examiner: K. Odland

Group Art Unit: 3743

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application, a copy of each of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the patent application filing.
- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ A fee is required. A check in/including the amount of \$* is enclosed.

- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After receipt of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided below.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

Applicants further bring the attention of the Examiner to the following co-owned pending patent applications:

U.S. Serial No. 09/828,335 filed April 5, 2001

U.S. Serial No. 09/847,947 filed May 2, 2001

U.S. Serial No. 10/188,013 filed July 1, 2002

U.S. Serial No. 10/208,405 filed July 29, 2002

U.S. Serial No. 10/364,064 filed February 10, 2003

U.S. Serial No. 10/408,019 filed April 3, 2003

U.S. Serial No. 10/439,973 filed May 16, 2003

U.S. Serial No. 10/653,027 filed August 28, 2003

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the U.S. Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1947 referencing Attorney Docket No. CSI-2014. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

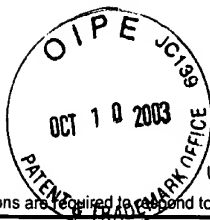
Date: October 9, 2003

By: 

Harry J. Macey
Registration No. 32,818
Attorney for Applicant

LAW OFFICE OF HARRY J. MACEY
1301 Shoreway Road, Suite 121
Belmont, CA 94002-4106
Telephone: 650.654.9555
Facsimile: 650.654.9554

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	09/828,322
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Filing Date	April 5, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Laurent Schaller
		Group Art Unit	3743
		Examiner Name	Kathryn Odland
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2014
Sheet	1	of	8

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ²			
	1.	43,098		Cooper	06/14/1964	
	2.	655,190		Bramson	08/07/1900	
	3.	1,583,271		Biro	05/04/1926	
	4.	1,625,602		Gould et al.	04/19/1927	
	5.	2,240,330		Flagg et al.	04/29/1941	
	6.	2,256,382		Dole	09/16/1941	
	7.	2,264,679		Ravel	12/02/1941	
	8.	2,516,710		Mascolo	07/25/1950	
	9.	2,715,486		Marcoff-Moghadam et al.	08/16/1955	
	10.	2,890,519		Storz, Jr.	06/16/1959	
	11.	3,249,104		Hohnstein	05/03/1966	
	12.	3,274,658		Pile	09/27/1966	
	13.	3,452,742		Muller	07/01/1969	
	14.	3,506,012		Brown	04/14/1970	
	15.	3,509,882		Blake	05/05/1970	
	16.	3,547,103		Cook	12/15/1970	
	17.	3,570,497		Lemole	03/16/1971	
	18.	3,608,095		Barry	09/28/1971	
	19.	3,638,654		Akuba	02/01/1972	
	20.	RE27,391		Merser	06/20/1972	
	21.	3,753,438		Wood et al.	08/21/1973	
	22.	3,875,648		Bone	04/08/1975	
	23.	3,910,281		Kletschka et al.	10/07/1975	
	24.	3,958,576		Komiya	05/25/1976	
	25.	3,976,079		Samuels	08/24/1976	
	26.	4,038,725		Keefe	08/02/1977	
	27.	4,103,690		Harris	08/01/1978	
	28.	4,140,125		Smith	02/20/1979	
	29.	4,170,990		Baumgart et al.	10/16/1979	
	30.	4,192,315		Hilzinger et al.	03/11/1980	
	31.	4,217,902		March	08/19/1980	
	32.	4,324,248		Perlin	04/13/1982	
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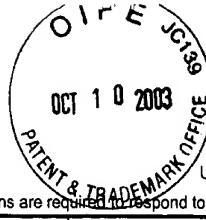
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		Group Art Unit	3743
		Examiner Name	Kathryn Odland
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2014
Sheet	2	of	8

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34.	4,416,266	Baucom	11/22/1983
35.	4,456,017	Miles	06/26/1984
36.	4,485,816	Krumme	12/04/1984
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38.	4,535,764	Ebert	08/20/1985
39.	4,549,545	Levy	10/29/1985
40.	4,586,502	Bedi et al.	05/06/1986
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42.	4,595,007	Mericle	06/17/1986
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44.	4,637,380	Orejola	01/20/1987
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47.	4,719,924	Crittenden et al.	01/19/1988
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51.	4,896,668	Popoff et al.	01/30/1990
52.	4,899,744	Fujitsuka et al.	02/13/1990
53.	4,901,721	Hakki	02/20/1990
54.	4,924,866	Yoon	05/15/1990
55.	4,926,860	Stice et al.	05/22/1990
56.	4,929,240	Kirsch et al.	05/29/1990
57.	4,932,955	Merz et al.	06/12/1990
58.	4,950,283	Dzubow et al.	08/21/1990
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60.	4,983,176	Cushman et al.	01/08/1991
61.	4,990,152	Yoon	02/05/1991
62.	4,997,439	Chen	03/05/1991
63.	5,002,550	Li	03/26/1991
64.	5,002,562	Oberlander	03/26/1991
65.	5,002,563	Pyka et al.	03/26/1991
66.	5,047,047	Yoon	09/10/1991
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68.	5,074,874	Yoon, Inbae et al.	12/24/1991
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		Group Art Unit	3743
		Examiner Name	Kathryn Odland
Sheet 3 of 8	Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2014	

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72.	5,154,189	Oberlander	10/13/1992	
73.	5,158,566	Pianetti	10/27/1992	
74.	5,171,250	Yoon	12/15/1992	
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76.	5,174,087	Bruno	12/29/1992	
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78.	5,219,358	Bendel et al.	06/15/1993	
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80.	5,236,440	Hlavacek	08/17/1993	
81.	5,242,456	Nash et al.	09/07/1993	
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83.	5,246,443	Mai	09/21/1993	
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86.	5,290,289	Sanders et al.	03/01/1994	
87.	5,304,204	Bregen	04/19/1994	
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91.	5,356,424	Buzerak et al.	10/18/1994	
92.	5,374,268	Sander	12/20/1994	
93.	5,383,904	Totakura et al.	01/24/1995	
94.	5,403,346	Loeser	04/04/1995	
95.	5,437,680	Yoon	08/01/1995	
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97.	5,439,479	Shichman et al.	08/08/1995	
98.	5,445,167	Yoon et al.	08/29/1995	
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100.	5,452,733	Sterman et al.	09/26/1995	
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103.	5,474,557	Mai	12/12/1995	
104.	5,480,405	Yoon	01/02/1996	
105.	5,486,197	Le et al.	01/23/1996	
106.	5,499,990	Schulken et al.	03/19/1996	
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108.	5,527,342	Pietrzak et al.	06/18/1996	
109.	5,549,619	Peters et al.	08/27/1996	

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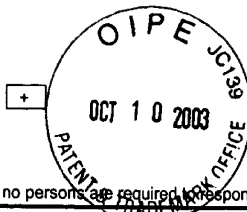
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		First Named Inventor	Laurent Schaller
		Group Art Unit	3743
		Examiner Name	Kathryn Odland
Sheet 4 of 8	Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2014	

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110.	5,569,274	Rapacki et al.	10/29/1996
111.	5,569,301	Granger et al.	10/29/1996
112.	5,582,616	Bolduc et al.	12/10/1996
113.	5,582,619	Ken	12/10/1996
114.	5,586,983	Sanders et al.	12/24/1996
115.	5,591,179	Edelstein	01/07/1997
116.	5,593,414	Shipp et al.	01/14/1997
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118.	5,609,608	Bennett et al.	03/11/1997
119.	5,632,752	Buelna	05/27/1997
120.	5,632,753	Loeser	05/27/1997
121.	5,643,295	Yoon	07/01/1997
122.	5,645,568	Chervitz et al.	07/08/1997
123.	5,665,109	Yoon	09/09/1997
124.	5,683,417	Cooper	11/04/1997
125.	5,695,505	Yoon	12/09/1997
126.	5,697,943	Sauer et al.	12/16/1997
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132.	5,725,539	Matern	03/10/1998
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134.	5,728,135	Bregen et al.	03/17/1998
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140.	5,824,008	Bolduc et al.	10/20/1998
141.	5,830,221	Stein et al.	11/03/1998
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144.	5,891,130	Palermo et al.	04/06/1999
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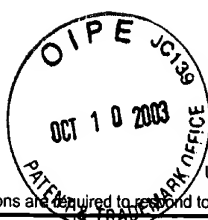
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Sheet	5	of	8		

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148.	5,961,481	Sterman et al.	10/05/1999	
149.	5,961,539	Northrup, III et al.	10/05/1999	
150.	5,964,772	Bolduc et al.	10/12/1999	
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152.	5,976,159	Bolduc et al.	11/02/1999	
153.	5,984,917	Fleischmann et al.	11/16/1999	
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157.	6,001,110	Adams	12/14/1999	
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161.	6,139,540	Rost et al.	10/31/2000	
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168.	6,254,615	Bolduc et al.	07/03/2001	
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Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	174.	WO	90/06725	A1	Bilweis	06/28/1990		
	175.	WO	90/09149	A1	Gattorna	08/23/1990		
	176.	WO	90/14795	A1	Yoon	12/13/1990		
	177.	WO	91/07916	A1	Wilk et al.	06/13/1991		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Sheet	6	of	8	Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2014

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	178.	WO	91/17712	A1	Wilk et al.	11/28/1991		
	179.	WO	92/05828	A1	Pyka et al.	04/16/1992		
	180.	WO	94/15535	A1	Hayhurst	07/21/1994		
	181.	WO	94/15537	A1	Yoon	07/21/1994		
	182.	WO	96/00035	A1	Mirigian	01/04/1996		
	183.	WO	96/06565	A1	Ruff	03/07/1996		
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		Application Number	09/828,322
		Filing Date	April 5, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Laurent Schaller
		Group Art Unit	3743
		Examiner Name	Kathryn Odland
Sheet 7 of 8	Attorney Docket Number	CSI-2014	

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	218.	Emery et al. "Suture Techniques for MIDCAB Surgery" Chapt. 12, pp. 87-91.	
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	224.	Written Opinion PCT/US99/12566 dated 28 July 2000.	

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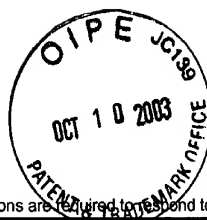
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				Attorney Docket Number		CSI-2014		
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